



GOSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Northumberland

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

year ended 31st December, 1967

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H.C.T. Smith, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.A.
Senior Public Health Inspector	George Stenger, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	Thomas W. Gibson, M.A.P.H.I.
Clerks:	Mrs. T. Robinson.
	Miss E. Jastrzab. Commenced 15th May, 1967.

Tel: Gosforth 54004

Lansdowne Terrace East,
GOSFORTH,
Northumberland.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Gosforth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is once again my honour to present the annual report
on the health of the district.

General and vital statistics and figures relating to
tuberculosis, infectious diseases and immunisation are set out.
With the publication of the 1966 sample census results an
opportunity has been taken of looking at some aspects of
population and housing in the district.

Once again I would like to thank Mr. Stenger and the other
members of the health department for their work, the other officers
of the Council for their co-operation and the members of the
Council for their support of the work of the department.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

H.C.T. SMITH,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	1739
Registrar General's estimated population	27,540
Number of inhabited houses according to rate book at 1st April, 1967.	9136
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£4178.
Rateable value at 1st April, 1967.	£1,036,423.
Population trends -	
1951	24,500
1956	24,810
1961	26,600
1962	26,780
1963	26,800
1964	27,410
1965	27,400
1966	27,510
1967	27,540

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rates</u>
LIVE BIRTHS	200	185	385	
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population				13.98
Comparability factor 0.97				
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 population				13.56
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	11	8	19	
Illegitimate live birth rate per 100 live births				4.94
STILLBIRTHS	2	2	4	
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still births				10.28
INFANT DEATHS (Deaths in the first year)	3	3	6	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births				15.53
NEONATAL DEATHS (Deaths in the first 4 weeks)	3	3	6	
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births				15.58
PERINATAL DEATHS (Deaths in the first week and stillbirths)	5	5	10	
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths				25.76
There have been no Maternal deaths since 1960				
DEATHS	180	191	371	
Crude death rate per 1,000 population				13.47
Comparability factor 0.72				
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population				10.10

Comparison with previous years

Year	Birth Rate (Adjusted)	Illegitimate Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Death Rate (Adjusted)
1956-60	16.3	2.7	22.2	14.3	11.6	33.0	11.6
1961-65	15.8	4.3	20.4	18.6	13.3	31.8	11.7
1966	14.4	3.9	7.3	12.3	9.8	17.0	11.7
1967	13.6	4.9	10.3	15.6	15.6	25.7	10.1

COMPARISON WITH OTHER AREAS

	Birth Rate (Adjusted)	Illeg- itimate Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Death Rate (adjusted)	Comparability Factors	Deaths
England & Wales	17.2	8.4	14.8	18.3	12.5	25.4	0.2	11.2	1.00	1.00
Northumberland Admin. County	14.8	6.0	13.9	17.6	12.5	24.1	Nil	12.0	1.00	1.03
South Area of Northumberland	14.0	4.6	11.3	19.0	15.8	26.3	Nil	11.2	0.94	0.94
Gosforth	13.6	4.9	10.3	15.6	15.6	25.7	Nil	10.1	0.97	0.75

Principal Causes of Death

	Home		Hospital		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cancer	48	18.7	4	3.5	52	14.0
Cerebro vascular disease	42	16.3	19	16.7	61	16.4
Heart and Circulatory disease	117	45.5	29	25.4	146	39.4
Respiratory disease	8	3.1	27	23.7	35	9.5
All other diseases	33	12.9	23	20.2	56	15.0
Accidents and suicide	9	3.5	12	10.5	21	5.7
	257	100	114	100	371	100

Place of Death

	Home	St.Nicholas Hospital	Other Hospitals	Total
A. Deaths in district	140	193	3	336
B. Outward transfers	10	83	1	94
C. Remaining in district (A-B)	130	110	2	242
D. Inward Transfers	127	2	-	129
E. Total deaths assigned to district (C + D)	257	112	2	371

Cause of Death	Sex	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. - 1	1- 5	5- 15	15- 25	25- 35	35- 45	45- 55	55- 65	65- 75	75 & all over ages	Total
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	4	4
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	1	10	10
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	2
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3	4	6	16	16
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	5	10	10
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	∞
16. Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	11	23	23
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	8	26	38	38
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	15	14	18	52	52
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	11	19	41	41
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	6	6
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	6	6
20. Other Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	8	12	12
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	12	14	14

21.	Other Circulatory Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	7
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	8
22.	Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
23.	Pneumonia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	8
24.	Bronchitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	10
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	8
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31.	Congenital Malformations	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill-Defined Diseases	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	17
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	12	29
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
34.	All other accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	12
35.	Suicide	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total All Causes		M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	72	180
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	100	191

Causes of Stillbirths

Accidental haemorrhage	1
a. Placental insufficiency b. Hypertension	1
Multiple congenital abnormalities	1
Cause unknown	1

Cause of Infant Deaths

All deaths occurred in hospital within one week of birth

Prematurity	3
Hyaline membrane disease	1
Potters syndrome	1
Birth asphyxia	1

Deaths from Cancer

Site of disease		Age of death							Total
		5+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	
Pharynx	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Stomach	M	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	4
	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Pancreas	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Liver	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gall Bladder	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Colon	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Rectum	M	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Larynx	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lung	M	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	10
	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Ovary	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Uterus	F	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Prostate	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Testis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bladder	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Multiple Myeloma	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary site unknown	M	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cerebral tumour	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leukaemia	M	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	M	1	1	1	2	5	7	6	33
	F	-	-	-	-	3	7	3	19

NOTE: This table has been prepared from local records and differs in one or two particulars from the table prepared by the Registrar General.

Accidental Deaths

	<u>Age</u>									Total
	5+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	75+		
<u>Motor vehicle accidents</u>										
Car ran off road	M -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Passenger in car/Car	M -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Pedestrian/Car	M -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS										
	M -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
	F -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
<u>All other accidents</u>										
Falls. Fractured femur	M -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	3 (3)	1 (6)	
Other fractures	M -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)	
Burns	M -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Asphyxia	M 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	
	F -	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	
Drowning	M -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Overdose of drugs	M -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
	F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS										
	M 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (1)	3 (1)	
	F -	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	1 (2)	1 (5)	3 (9)	

The figures in brackets refer to patients in hospital within the district

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of New Cases

AGE	New Cases				Inward Transfers			
	Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5 - 14		1						
15 - 24	1							
25 - 34					2	1		
35 - 44	1	1						
45 - 54						1		
55 - 64	3	1						
65+	1							
	6	3	-	-	2	2	-	-
	9		-		4		-	
	9				4			
	13							

Comparison with previous years.

	<u>Year</u>	<u>New Cases</u>	<u>Inward Transfers</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Average	1946-50	26	5	14
"	1951-55	32	11	6
"	1956-60	23	11	2
"	1960-65	13	8	1
	1961	20	12	2
	1962	10	11	-
	1963	12	2	-
	1964	7	7	1
	1965	15	7	1
	1966	12	7	2
	1967	9	4	-

Tuberculosis Register 1967

No. of cases on register at commencement of year.	No. of cases added to register.		No. of cases removed from register.		No. of cases remaining.	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Males	116	14	8	-	63	11
Females	74	26	5	-	38	21
					61	3
					41	5

The tuberculosis register was revised during 1967 with the help of the Chest Clinic. As a result it was found that a number of names could be removed.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

During 1967 immunisation and vaccination was given according to the following schedule:-

VISITS	at <u>AGE</u>	<u>VACCINE</u>
1	3 months	Triple Antigen (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough) and Oral Poliomyelitis.
2	4 months	Triple Antigen.
3	5 months	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis.
4	7 months	Oral Poliomyelitis.
5	1-2 years	Smallpox vaccination.
6	2 years	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis.
7	4-5 years	Diphtheria/Tetanus Oral Poliomyelitis
8	8-10 years	Diphtheria/Tetanus
9	10-12 years	B.C.G. (to those negative to skin test)

The figures on page 18 are a big improvement on 1966 and indicate that some 90% of children are receiving primary vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and poliomyelitis. Most children also received all the appropriate reinforcing doses against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis. In the primary schools the parents of all children were circulated and those due for reinforcing doses were immunised. At the same time those children who had never had primary tetanus immunisation were given two further injections of Tetanus Toxoid. The figures for smallpox vaccination are also better and show a steady improvement over the last three years. Now some 60% of infants are vaccinated. This figure is not wholly satisfactory but compares well with figures of 10 - 15% in some areas.

In February 1968 the Ministry of Health introduced a new schedule for immunisation and vaccination as follows:-

<u>VISITS</u>	<u>at AGE</u>	<u>VACCINE</u>
1	4 months	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
2	6 months	do
3	12 months	do
4	2nd year	Measles
5	2nd year	Smallpox
6	4-5 years	Diphtheria, Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis
7	10-12 years	B.C.G. (if necessary after skin test).
8	On leaving school	- Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis.

This simplifies the procedure and should be easier to operate. It is hoped to introduce routine measles vaccination during 1968.

Numbers immunised in 1967

Type of Antigen	Year of Birth						TOTAL
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63	1951-59	
Primary diphtheria/tetanus/ pertussis including a small number where only diphtheria/ tetanus was given.	136	209	8	3	12	18	386
Primary tetanus combined with reinforcing diphtheria.					7	96	103
Reinforcing diphtheria/ tetanus pertussis.		32	221	42	73	38	406
Reinforcing diphtheria/ tetanus including a small number where only diphtheria or only tetanus was given.		2	7	1	321	586	917
Primary poliomyelitis.	121	208	18	3	13	4	367
Reinforcing poliomyelitis.		28	224	43	254	39	588
Primary smallpox vaccination.	23	121	53	11	7	15	230
Re-vaccination.			3	2	4	15	24
B.C.G.						304	304

POPULATION

The results of the 1966 census have now been published and give information on the age structure of Gosforth. The figures are those of the enumerated population i.e., those enumerated on census night and are slightly different from the estimates of the resident population which the Registrar General supplies.

Enumerated population 1961 and 1966

	1961		1966	
	No.	%	No.	%
0 - 4	1960	7.2	1930	7.1
5 - 14	3870	14.3	4030	14.7
15 - 24	3330	12.3	3730	13.7
25 - 44	7120	26.3	6700	24.5
45 - 64	7240	26.7	7310	26.8
65 +	<u>3550</u>	13.1	<u>3590</u>	13.2
	<u>27070</u>		<u>27290</u>	

These percentage figures can be compared with those for England and Wales and for the whole of Northumberland including the two County Boroughs.

Percentage persons in age groups

	1961			1966		
	England & Wales	Northumberland A.C. and C.B.	Gosforth	England & Wales	Northumberland A.C. and C.B.	Gosforth
0 - 4	7.8	8.2	7.2	8.7	8.2	7.1
5 - 14	15.2	16.0	14.3	14.2	15.4	14.7
15 - 24	13.2	12.2	12.3	14.7	14.3	13.7
25 - 44	26.2	26.5	26.3	25.2	24.4	24.5
45 - 64	25.7	25.2	26.7	24.8	25.5	26.3
65 +	11.9	11.2	13.7	12.4	12.2	13.2

The population in Gosforth thus tends to be slightly older than the national average although this is mainly accounted for by the number of old people at St. Nicholas Hospital where there are nearly 500 persons over 65.

Comparison of Gosforth's birth rate with that of Northumberland and England and Wales shows the rate in Gosforth to be consistently below the national average.

		<u>Birth Rate. Gosforth, Northumberland (A.C.) and England and Wales.</u>			
	Av. no. of Births	Gosforth Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	N'land Birth Rate	E. & W. Birth Rate
1951 - 55	375	15.2	15.2	16.4	15.3
1956 - 60	398	16.3	16.3	16.8	16.4
1961 - 65	431	16.0	15.8	16.8	18.1
1966	408	14.8	14.4	15.1	17.7
1967	385	14.0	13.6	14.8	17.2

Information was also given in the sample census of the socio economic groups of males aged 15 and over and the percentage figures of this and other areas can be compared.

Socio economic distribution. Males over 15.
Percentage figures

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Professional	Managerial	Skilled Manual & Clerical	Semi Skilled	Unskilled	Other
N'land A.C. & C.B.	3.9	9.3	55.1	19.9	9.1	2.7
Gosforth	9.6	14.9	59.2	10.2	4.8	1.3
Newburn	4.3	6.7	60.5	20.0	7.8	0.7
Castle Ward	8.4	17.9	45.5	18.1	6.6	3.5

H O U S I N G

From census returns and other sources it is possible to give some information on the housing of the district.

<u>Age and ownership.</u>		<u>Total houses end of 1967</u>			
<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>All others</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>England & Wales</u> <u>% Feb.1967</u>	
1914	-	3400	3400	36.6	38.4
1914-44	400	2160	2560	27.5	27.1
1945	1872	1464	3336	35.9	34.5
TOTAL:	2272	7024	9296		

Figures are approximate.

<u>Types of Tenures.</u>		<u>Enumerated households.</u>	
	<u>1961</u>		<u>1966</u>
	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>
Owner occupied	4290	49.8	4660
Rented from L.A. 1920		22.3	1970
Rented privately 1980		22.9	1820
Other tenures	<u>430</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>340</u>
	<u>8620</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>8790</u>

These figures can be compared with those for other areas.

	<u>Types of Tenures 1966. %.</u>			
	<u>Owner Occupied</u>	<u>Rented L.A.</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Other Tenures</u>
England & Wales	48.7	26.8	19.2	5.3
Northumberland A.C. & C.B.	34.5	34.6	23.6	7.3
Gosforth	52.9	24.7	18.5	3.9
Newburn	41.8	39.2	12.0	7.0
Castle Ward	45.2	35.8	6.7	12.3

"Other tenancies" denotes homes held in connection with a farm or business. The majority of these are owner occupied.

Problems of overcrowding now occur very infrequently and Gosforth appears to be particularly well off for space compared with other areas.

Household spaces. Persons per room 1966

Percentage houses with

	<u>Over $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons</u>	<u>Over $1 - 1\frac{1}{2}$</u>	<u>Over $\frac{1}{2} - 1$</u>	<u>$\frac{1}{2}$ or Less</u>
England and Wales	3.8	8.5	63.4	24.2
Northumberland A.C. & C.B.	1.7	5.8	62.0	30.5
Gosforth	0.1	2.8	58.7	38.4
Newburn	1.3	3.7	67.2	27.8
Castle Ward	0.5	4.9	67.2	27.4

In 1966 information was also obtained on household amenities.

Private houses lacking amenities

% households without exclusive use of -

	<u>Hot Water Tap</u>	<u>Fixed Bath</u>	<u>Inside W.C.</u>	<u>Households without exclusive use of one or more of these amenities</u>
England and Wales	16.6	19.3	23.9	27.6
Northumberland A.C.&C.B.	11.2	16.0	24.7	25.9
Gosforth	4.0	7.1	14.8	15.3
Newburn	6.4	11.8	20.8	21.7
Castle Ward	3.5	5.6	9.0	9.2

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure and privilege to present for your consideration my report on the work of the Health Department in the field of environmental hygiene.

I am happy to state that there was no change in the inspectorial staff, but changes did take place involving the clerical staff. In May, Miss E. Jastrzab was appointed as junior clerk in the department, and at the end of the year Mrs. Robinson, senior clerk, left the service of the Council to take up a similar appointment with the Northern Gas Board.

I sincerely trust that Miss Jastrzab will enjoy a long and happy association with the Council, and I extend to Mrs. Robinson my very good wishes for her future. Mrs. D. Kershaw was appointed as a successor to Mrs. Robinson, and due to take up her appointment at the beginning of 1968.

The year was one of considerable activity resulting in over five thousand visits being paid by Mr. Gibson and myself.

Sustained efforts were again made to maintain the highest standards of hygiene in food shops, including mobile shops, stalls, etc. Every endeavour was made to maintain at the highest level the standards of health and welfare for office and shop workers.

Further progress was made with the compulsory improvement of dwelling houses in the south Gosforth area and, indeed, at the end of the year, consideration was given to the possible extension of the scheme to other areas in the district.

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district has a piped water supply, provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

I am indebted to Dr. A.T. Palin, Chief Chemist to the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company for supplying the following information.

Bacteriological Examination.

1053 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson (Throckley) Filter Plants were examined in the Company's Laboratory; three were 'unsatisfactory', three 'satisfactory', the remainder 'excellent'. 222 samples of the water from the Warkworth Filter Plant were taken at the Longbenton Governor House; all were 'excellent' save one, which was 'satisfactory'. 378 samples from special fixed sampling points in Newcastle upon Tyne were all 'excellent'. 118 samples taken at random in the area (including 7 taken in Gosforth) were all 'excellent'.

Chemical Examination.

I understand from Dr. Palin that there was no significant change in the average chemical composition of the water supplied for domestic consumption.

Below are typical results of chemical analyses of filtered water from Warkworth Treatment Plant.

	<u>Max.</u>	<u>Min.</u>	<u>Mean</u>
pH Value	7.5	6.8	7.0
Free CO ₂	16	2	6
Alkalinity (As CaCO ₃)	120	20	80
Hardness: (As CaCO ₃)			
Total	170	70	125
Carbonate	120	20	80
Non-Carbonate	80	30	45
Calcium	120	40	80
Magnesium	55	25	45
Chlorides (as Cl)	24	10	16
Sulphates (as SO ₄)	65	35	50
Silica (as SiO ₂) ⁴	4.2	0.8	2.4
Fluorides (as F)	0.3	0.1	0.2
Iron (as Fe)	0.20	0.01	0.07
Manganese (as Mn)	0.05	0.01	0.01
Dissolved Solids	280	130	210

(Chemical results in milligrams per litre)

This is a river-derived water the composition of which can vary from time to time. The maxima and minima quoted are not to be regarded as absolute values but rather as limits not likely to be exceeded in normal circumstances.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection.

It was possible, but only with some difficulty, to maintain a weekly collection of refuse from all premises throughout the district, and indeed a bi-weekly collection from certain food premises. The difficulty arises from the ever increasing demands for special collections of refuse, particularly bulky objects such as unwanted furniture. It is possible that, when the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act 1963 are more widely known by the general public, particularly the provisions contained in Part III of the Act, which prescribes heavy penalties for unauthorised dumping of refuse, further demands will be made on the Health Department.

The situation was eased somewhat towards the end of the year when the Council authorised the engagement of two additional refuse collectors.

Refuse Disposal.

Tipping operations continued to be carried out at a site on the old Coast Road situated in the Urban District of Longbenton. The average distance from Gosforth to the disposal point is approximately 4 miles. The number of loads deposited in the tip from Gosforth alone was 4846, representing an estimated 9692 tons. Expenditure incurred in the disposal of refuse is equally borne by the Longbenton and Gosforth Councils.

Once again it is my pleasure and privilege to voice on your behalf our sincere thanks to the Chairman and members of the Longbenton Council for continuing to provide this Council with facilities for the disposal of refuse. In this particular regard I would also like to mention Mr. Thirkell, Senior Public Health Inspector to the Longbenton Council.

Regional Refuse Disposal.

Further progress was made with this project with the publication of the report of the Local Government Operational Research Unit. The Steering Committee, consisting of Planning Officers and Cleansing Officers, expressed their confidence in recommending the Research Unit's major conclusions.

Salvage Disposal.

The quantity of waste paper forwarded to the Board Mills during the financial year ended the 31st March 1967 was 305 tons, a decrease of 48 tons over the previous financial year.

The figure of 305 tons per annum represents 0.9 tons per month per 1,000 of population, and realised an income of £2597, a decrease of £623. over the previous year.

I have repeatedly stated that in my opinion this urban district is capable of producing 1.0 ton of waste paper per 1,000 population per month and, although the collection of over 300 tons of waste paper for the year displays a commendable effort, I am rather disappointed that the target figure at least has not been reached.

The tonnage of the various grades of waste paper forwarded to the Board Mills during the year, and the income received from the sale thereof, is as follows :-

<u>Grade</u>	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	187.	16.	3.	1502.	14.	0.
Fibreboard	35.	0.	0.	350.	0.	0.
Newsprint	82.	13.	3.	744.	3.	9.
	305.	10.	2.	£2596.	17.	9.

Staff.

Sickness among the staff showed a decrease on the previous year. The amount involved being £478., representing 1425 man-hours, as against £570., representing 1812 man-hours for the previous year. The manual staff, under the leadership of my extremely able and conscientious foreman, Mr. Bishton, have again carried out their task quietly and efficiently and I am grateful to them.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967.

Part 111 of the Civic Amenities Act 1967 deals with the disposal of abandoned vehicles and other refuse.

Broadly speaking, the Act (which received the Royal Assent on 27th July, 1967) tackles the problems involved by -

- (a) Providing for the establishment by local authorities of places where their residents may deposit refuse, other than business refuse, free of charge (Section 18).
- (b) Making it a statutory offence to abandon a motor vehicle or any other thing brought there for the purpose, on any land in the open air (or on other land forming part of the highway) without lawful authority (Section 19) and
- (c) Giving local authorities certain powers and duties in relation to the removal of abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse (Sections 20 to 23).

HOUSING

Subsequent to submitting reports to the Health Committee on the condition of certain dwelling houses situated on the north side of Henry Street, the Council resolved to declare the area a clearance area, in accordance with Section 42 of the Housing Act 1957.

There still remains a fair number of dwelling houses, not confined to any one section of the district, but principally situated in the Coxlodge area, which may be classed as unfit, and, in addition, lacking one or more basic amenities. It is possible that some of them may be worth saving and indeed improving.

Excellent progress continues to be made in connection with the compulsory improvement of dwellings in the Sandringham Road and Audley Road area. During the year sixty-three applications for standard grants were made to the Council. This figure represents more than one third of the total number of houses in the scheme, and the number of dwelling houses where works of improvement have been completed is fifty-six.

Although the greater number of houses have yet to be improved I am of the opinion that the time is not inopportune to look into the possibilities for the creation of further improvement areas. It is essential that, where it is feasible to do so, all the sound older houses should be improved, preferably to the full standard, or at least to the reduced standard.

At the request of the Health Committee I submitted a report on further areas which could possibly lend themselves to improvement.

This was followed up by a survey of the dwelling houses in Ashfield Road and Delaval Terrace which produced the following results :-

	<u>Ashfield</u> <u>Road</u>	<u>Delaval</u> <u>Tce.</u>
No. of houses surveyed	35	44
No. of tenanted houses	29	26
No. of owner/occupied houses	6	18
No. of houses provided with all amenities	4	7

<u>Amenities Required</u>		<u>Ashfield</u>	<u>Delaval</u>
		<u>Road</u>	<u>Tce.</u>
No. of houses not provided with -	Bath in bathroom	28	26
	Wash-hand basin	31	26
	Internal water closet	31	31
	Ventilated food store	17	22
	Hot water to sink	13	8
	Hot water to bath in bathroom	28	26
	Hot water to wash-hand basin	31	26

The Committee agreed to accept in principle the report on these dwelling houses as a basis for the establishment of a further improvement area.

The technical and administrative work in this particular field of housing is fairly considerable but, nevertheless, generally rewarding as it is felt that the improvements are greatly appreciated by owner and tenant alike.

Standard Grants (Compulsory Improvements)
Section 20. Housing Act 1964.

1.	No. of Preliminary Notices served	97
2.	No. of Immediate Improvement Notices served	97
3.	Applications submitted to Local Authority	63
4.	Applications rejected	Nil
5.	Applications approved	63
6.	No. of houses where works of improvement proceeded with and completed during the year	47
7.	No. of houses provided with :-	
	(a) Bath or shower	14
	(b) Wash-hand basin	27
	(c) Hot water supply	27
	(d) Internal water closet	43
	(e) Food store	35

Standard Grants (Excluding Compulsory Improvements)
House Purchase and Housing Act 1959,
as amended.

	<u>During the</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>to</u> <u>Date</u>
1. No. of separate houses for which grants have been made	9	127
2. No. of houses so provided with -		
(a) Bath or shower	2	66
(b) Wash-hand basin	6	80
(c) Hot water supply	6	77
(d) Internal water closet	7	116
(e) Food store	5	87

Housing Statistics

New Houses completed during the year

(a) By local authority	132
(b) By private persons	35

Closing and Demolition

(a) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	14
(b) Houses closed but not demolished	Nil
(c) Other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above	25

Unfit houses made fit

(a) After informal action taken by local authority	11
(b) After formal action by local authority	2

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

During the year, at the request of the Health Committee, I submitted the following information which is a breakdown of the number of dwelling houses situated on the west side of the Great North Road and attempted to arrange them into potential smoke control areas.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
Comprising Grange Lane and Grange Park Estates and including Bridge Park, Fencer Hill and The Fairway.	1077
Comprising Fawdon Farm Estate, Regent Farm Estate, (both private and Council properties).	1340
Area bounded by Regent Farm Road, Lansdowne Terrace and Crescent, Salters Road and Jubilee Road.	(582)
Comprising Kenton and Coxlodge.	(725) 1307
Area bounded by Salters Road, High Street, Elmfield Road and Brackenfield Road.	(605)
Area bounded by Elmfield Road, High Street, Moor Crescent and Kenton Road.	(594)
Area bounded by Salters Road, Brackenfield Road, Elmfield Road and Kenton Road.	(697) 1896

This information was supplemented with figures showing air pollution readings taken in Gosforth, together with those taken in neighbouring areas.

The Committee resolved that the question of the establishment of Smoke Control Areas be deferred for twelve months, during which period additional readings would be obtained and submitted for further consideration, together with comparative figures obtained from neighbouring authorities.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

There are no known premises operating within the district as boarding establishments within the meaning of the Act.

The Act prohibits the keeping of a boarding establishment for animals except under the authority of a licence, which may be granted by a local authority.

Pet Animals Act 1951

No application for licensing of premises was received during the year, and the number of premises licensed under the Act remains at one.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

Five complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year, all of which were investigated and remedial measures adopted to abate the nuisance. The complaints were quite varied and concerned the production of noise from building operations, barking of dogs, slamming of car doors and factory noises. Occasionally, complaints were received in connection with the production of noise from the use of pneumatic drills in road repairing operations on the Great North Road. Representations were made to the firm concerned which resulted in noise suppressors being fitted to the drills.

Drainage Systems and Drain Testing

Activity in this particular field, i.e. the supervision of the lay-out of new drainage systems and the repair and reconstruction of existing systems was fairly considerable. Nearly 2,400 yards of new drainage work were tested necessitating the application of 227 water tests and 52 smoke tests.

The bulk of the work was confined to the construction of new buildings, both domestic and commercial, involving visits to 12 different sites. The sustained progress in the compulsory improvement of dwellings was also a contributing factor in the increased activity in this particular direction.

Disinfestation

The number of residents taking advantage of the service offered by the Health Department in the eradication of insects grows yearly. Seventy-one complaints were received during the year, which is more than double the figure received the previous year. Twelve different species of insects were dealt with, the most troublesome being the red mite, cockroach and the wasp.

The migrating habit of the clover mite posed quite a problem in our endeavours to eradicate this insect from dwelling houses. Large invasions of the mite were found in newly erected houses, the invasions being more prominent where grass was found to be in close contact with the main walls of the house.

I am very grateful to the Regional Pests Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, for prompt attention given to requests for identification of insects and for his advice in matters of extermination.

Rodent Infestation

The number of complaints received this year showed a sharp increase, 123 complaints as against 94 the previous year. However, in 43 instances, there was no evidence of any infestation.

The number of premises involved was 162 and of these 103 were found to be infested with rats and 16 infested with mice. There was no evidence of any major infestation.

The total number of visits made was 820. The rodenticides used were Warfarin and Alphakil, the latter proving very successful in connection with infestations of mice.

The majority of business premises are regularly serviced by servicing agents. This is a very wise and necessary precaution, particularly in connection with food premises.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

This Act, passed in 1963, makes provision for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in office or shop premises, and came into operation in 1964.

A further 47 premises were registered during the year bringing the total of registered premises up to 310.

Your inspectors were actively engaged in the administration of the Act and at the end of the year 648 visits had been made to various premises. The number of contraventions discovered was 325. An analysis of these is described on the following page, and is indeed proof of the vigour with which this comparatively new legislation has been tackled. Eleven accidents were reported, all of which were investigated and none found to be fatal.

Registrations and General Inspections.

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year.	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year.	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	24	112	89
Retail shops	22	179	174
Wholesale shops, warehouses,	-	1	1
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens.	1	18	17
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS:	47	310	281

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 648

Analysis by workplace of persons employed in registered premises

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	1180
Retail shops	808
Wholesale departments, warehouses	11
Catering establishments open to the public	195
Canteens	54
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	2248
Total Males	853
Total Females	1395

Analysis of Contraventions.

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	38	13	Sitting facilities	-
5	Overcrowding	-	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	2
6	Temperature	32	15	Eating facilities	2
7	Ventilation	1	16	Floors, passage & stairs	22
8	Lighting	20	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	10
9	Sanitary conveniences	52	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10	Washing facilities	28	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11	Supply of drinking water	7	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing accommodation	3	24	First-aid	66
				Other matters	42
				TOTAL	325

Analysis of reported accidents

	Offices	Retail shops	Catering establishments open to public, canteens
Machinery		1	
Transport			
Falls of persons	1	2	1
Stepping on or striking against object or person			
Handling goods		4	1
Struck by falling object			
Fires and explosions			1
Electricity			
Use of hand tools			
Not otherwise specified.			

Factories Act 1961

PART 1.

INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	1	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	73	79	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	17	19	3	NIL
Total	91	100	4	NIL

Factories Act 1961

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16	16	Nil	Nil	Nil

Factories Act 1961

PART VIII

(OUTWORK)

(Sections 133 & 134)

	Section 133	Section 134			
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of prosec- utions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prose- cutions
(1)	(2)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing } making apparel } etc. } cleaning } and } washing	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Inspection of Food and Food Premises

Milk Samples.

During the year twenty-five samples of "Untreated" milk were obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Twenty-four samples, representing 96.0% of the number submitted, satisfied the Methylene Blue Keeping Quality Test.

Biological examination of samples of milk taken from two producers proved negative to M. Tuberculosis.

Ice-Cream Samples.

Eight samples of ice-cream were procured during the year, none of which fell into Grade 4. Two samples, however, did fall into Grade 3, one of which was a sample of prewrapped ice-cream. This is rather unusual but, despite carrying out an investigation, the reason for the low grading was inexplicable.

Type of Sample Procured		Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue	Prov. Grade	% of total
Prewrapped	Loose			
4	1	4 hrs. or more	1	62.5
1	-	2½ hrs.	2	12.5
1	-	2 hrs.	3	12.5
-	1	½ hr.	3	12.5

Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Section 62 (Licensing of Slaughter Houses)

There are no slaughter houses in the district.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1960.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

Poultry Inspection.

There are no poultry processing premises situated in the district.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

Food Premises.

There are one hundred and fifty-six food premises in the district, details of which are described in the following table :-

Type of Premises	No.	Type of Premises	No.
General Dealers	37	Retail Bakers	16
Meat Purveyors	19	Premises with 'Off-Licence'	9
Fruiterers	15	Fishmongers & Poulterers	3
Licensed Premises	25	Bakehouses	2
Confectioners	20	Fried Fish & Chips	6
		Cafes	6

Over three hundred visits were made to the various food premises in the district, subsequent to which it was found necessary to serve seventy-one informal notices in connection with infringements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations. In no instance was it found necessary to take any formal action.

The standard of hygiene in food premises in this district is fairly high, and it is the constant endeavour of your public health inspectors that it should remain so.

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st January, 1967, and revoke the provisions of the General Regulations dealing with markets, stalls, etc.

Certain provisions of the General Regulations shall cease to apply to any food business to which the new Regulations apply and to any person employed in the handling of food in the course of such a business.

A total of eighty inspections of mobile food traders were carried out, resulting in the service of forty-seven informal notices.

It was found necessary to take legal proceedings against a firm, for using, in the course of a food business, a delivery vehicle which was not kept clean. The firm was fined £10. for contravening Article 5 (1), of the Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Section 16 (Registration of food premises).

Four applications for the sale of ice cream were received and duly approved.

Sixty-nine premises are now registered for the sale of ice-cream, one for the manufacture of ice-cream, and thirty for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food, intended for sale.

The type and number of food premises registered as aforesaid, is shown as follows :-

Type of Premises	No. Regd.	Type of Premises	No. Regd.
General Dealers	32	Fruiterers	6
Confectioners	16	'Off-Licence'	5
Meat Purveyors	15	Bakehouses	2
Retail Bakers	8	Cafe	2
Fried Fish & Chips	6	Fishmongers	1

Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Section 2. (General protection for purchasers of food and drugs).

Section 8. (Sale, etc., of food unfit for human consumption).

During the year thirteen complaints were received, each alleging the unfitness of food sold for human consumption. Legal proceedings were instituted in connection with two of the complaints, one of which concerned the sale of a loaf of bread in a mouldy condition, and the other the sale of a loaf of bread containing a quantity of hessian.

Both of the firms concerned in the above proceedings were found guilty and fines of £20. and £50., respectively, were imposed.

Unsound Food (voluntarily surrendered).

One hundred and seventy-one pounds of unsound food, consisting of seven tins of meat and twenty-eight tins of fruit and vegetables, were voluntarily surrendered and suitably disposed of in the incinerator situated at the Council depot.

Adulteration of Food.

I am indebted to Mr. C.L. Arlidge, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Northumberland County Council, for supplying me with details of samples taken by his sampling officers in the Urban District of Gosforth during the year under review.

Mr. Arlidge informs me that one hundred and thirty samples were procured which included seventeen samples taken at schools.

One hundred and twenty samples were found to be genuine, and the following particulars relate to those samples found to be unsatisfactory :-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Apricot Crumble Blackcurrant Crumble Pineapple Crunchy Sponge Gooseberry Crunchy Sponge Lemon Meringue Pie Chocolate Meringue Pie	) In each case it was a sample of uncooked fruit and sweet mixture incorrectly labelled. The label of each states "Each packet contains the top quality ingredients, in correct quantities, for making a generous home baked sweet" which implies that everything necessary is included. The cooking instructions require the addition of certain other ingredients.	Manufacturers agreed to modify existing labels and alter design and wording of future labels.

TABLE 1.

(Complaints received and dealt with)

<u>Nature of Complaint</u>	<u>No. of Complaints</u>
Accumulations	6
Dampness (Dwelling House)	21
Streams	4
Defective Drains	9
Disrepair (Dwelling House)	38
Extraneous matter in food	13
Foul Smells	19
Noise Nuisances	5
Vermin (Insects)	71
Vermin (Rats)	91
Vermin (Mice)	32
Atmospheric Pollution	4
Overcrowding	1
Miscellaneous	28
	342

TABLE 11.

(Summary of Visits)

Accumulations	15
Dwelling Houses	454
Ditches and Streams	49
Drainage Systems	275
Drain Test:-	
Smoke	52
Water	227
Factories (Mechanical)	79
(Non-mechanical)	21
Food Premises	301
Ice-Cream Samples	8
Infectious Disease Enquiries	8
Revisits	31
Improvement Grants	992
Licensed Premises	48
Milk Samples and Enquiries	26
Mobile Shops etc.	80
National Assistance Act	9
Noise Nuisances	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	648
Piggeries	1
Rodent Infestation:-	
Rats	690
Mice	130
Refuse Collection - Supervision	425
Schools re. Sanitation	14
Smoke Observations	77
Verminous Premises	219
Water Samples	6
Workplaces	26
Miscellaneous	307
Total	5223

CONCLUSION

In concluding my report, I would like to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Health Committee, and all other members of the Council, for the courteous manner in which my reports to the various Committees have been received and dealt with, and for the kind support extended to me throughout the year. I am also grateful for the help and advice afforded to me by the Clerk to the Council and by Dr. Smith.

I am sincerely indebted to Mr. Gibson, my additional Inspector, who has been a veritable pillar of strength to me throughout the year, and who has proved himself to be a very capable and efficient officer. Mrs. Robinson, the Senior Clerk, carried out the duties assigned to her with the precision and efficiency characteristic of her. She was very ably assisted by the Junior Clerk, Miss Jastrzab, who, despite the short length of service with the Council, largely contributed to the smooth running of the department. This promising start by Miss Jastrzab augurs well for her future in local government.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

GEORGE STENGER,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

